"Ye souls who are bound unto Canaan, Come join in and help me to sing. The praises of my loving Jesus, My Prophet, my Priest, and my King."—376 Help Me to Sing

Maryland SHAPE NOTE DOT ORG

VOL.3 NO.1 ◥●■◆ JAN–JUN 2026

FIND FELLOW FASOLA FOLK

Welcome to our newsletter for shape-note singers across Maryland and beyond! Singings come and go, and regional singings in Easton and Annapolis are in hiaus.

Baltimore | 2nd Mon. & 4th Tues. / 7-9:30pm

Four Hour Day Lutherie, 4305 Harford Rd., Baltimore

2nd Mon: *The Shenandoah Harmony, The Sacred Harp*

4th Tues: *The Shenandoah Harmony, The Valley Pocket Harmonist*

Email: Nora or Kevin — baltimoreshapenote@gmail.com

Brentwood | Fourth Saturdays / 2-5pm

Books: *The Valley Pocket Harmonist*

Email for details: Jonathan — jonathaneennewton@gmail.com

Fifth Sunday FaSoLa | Fifth Sundays

A moving singing hosted by different singers in different locations around Maryland. Find dates and locations on our website!

Contact the organizer if you'd like to host a sing!

Email for details: Kevin — baltimoreshapenote@gmail.com

Sandy Springs | Third Sundays / 3-7:30pm

Friends House, 17340 Quaker Lane, Sandy Spring, Maryland 20860

Books: *The Sacred Harp (1991 Edition)*

Email for details: Anne — annegreene@hushmail.com

Other regional groups to sing with:

Abbreviations: SHC = Sacred Harp, Cooper Edition, SHM = Sacred Harp, 1991 or 2025 Edition, ShH = Shenandoah Harmony, VPH = Valley Pocket Harmonist, CHM = Christian Harmony 2010

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Capitol Hill, 3rd Wednesday, 7-9pm, SHM + ShH

WHERE: Capitol Hill Presbyterian, 201 4th St SE, Washington, DC 20003
WEBSITE: dcshapenote.squarespace.com
CONTACT: Alexa Silverman, silvermanalexa@gmail.com & David Shulman, davids.wdc@gmail.com

Eckington, 2nd Sundays, ShH + VPH

WHERE: Eckington neighborhood of Washington, DC, email for address
WEBSITE: dcshapenote.squarespace.com
CONTACT: Mona Lewandoski, mona.lewandoski@gmail.com
NOTE: Email for address and to confirm dates. This sing takes place in a heated/air conditioned garage with water and bathroom access.

PENNSYLVANIA

Exeter/Burks County, 3rd & 4th Sundays, 5:30-8pm, SHM

WHERE: 191 Meetinghouse Road, Douglassville, PA 19518
WEBSITE: pennsylvaniasacredharp.com

Lancaster, 1st Sunday, 3-5:30pm, SH

WHERE: (email contact for location)
WEBSITE: pennsylvaniasacredharp.com
CONTACT: Elizabeth Patton, sacredharp.lanc.pa@gmail.com

Philadelphia, 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 6:30-8:45pm SHM or ShH

WHERE: DuBois-Robeson People's Center, 4515 Baltimore Ave
WEBSITE: phillysacredharp.org
CONTACT: Rachel Hall, 215-605-1621 or rachelwellshall@gmail.com

Philadelphia, 2nd Saturday, 3-5:30pm SHM

WHERE: Germantown Mennonite Historic Trust, 6133 Germantown Ave
WEBSITE: phillysacredharp.org

VIRGINIA

Northern Shenandoah Valley, 3rd Saturdays, 3-6pm, SHM+ShH+VPH

WHERE: 2336 Salem Church Rd, Boyce, VA 22620
WEBSITE: shenandoahharmony.com
CONTACT: Kelly Macklin, skmack02@gmail.com
NOTE: Stay for potluck and conversation!

Richmond, 1st Tuesday, 7-9pm & 3rd Sunday, 2-4pm, SHM + ShH

WHERE: St.Giles Presbyterian Church 5200 Grove Ave, Richmond, VA 23226
WEBSITE: richmondshapenote.org
CONTACT: Adrienne, adrienne.e.robertson@gmail.com

Rivanna, 1st Saturday, 10-Noon, SHM + ShH + VPH

WHERE: Social Hall, Unitarian Universalist; 717 Rugby Road; Charlottesville, VA 22903
CONTACT: John, john.alexanderj@gmail.com

Regional All-Day & Special Singings:

(Details may change. You can confirm and find more at SHAPENOTESINGINGS.COM)

2026

JANUARY ◥●■◆

3 **Valley Pocket Harmonist** (VA) VPH
Grace Episcopal Church, 110 N. Church St., Berryville VA 22611
shenandoahharmony.com

24–25 **Keystone Convention** (PA) SHM + CHM
The Rotunda, 4014 Walnut St, Philadelphia PA, 19104
pennsylvaniasacredharp.com

March ◥●■◆

29 **5th Sunday FaSoLa in Frederick** (MD) ShH + VPH
2:30–5:30 PM · All Saints' Episcopal Church, Frederick, MD
marylandshapenote.org

APRIL ◥●■◆

11–12 **Potomac River Convention** (VA) SHM + ShH
Sat: Episcopal Church, 633 Sligo Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910.
Sun: Lacey Woods Park, 1200 N George Mason Dr, Arlington, VA 22205
dcshapenote.squarespace.com

25 **Oliver Kindig-Stokes Memorial** (PA) SHM
Hope Born in Christ Church, 2600 Marietta Ave, Lancaster, PA 17601
pennsylvaniasacredharp.com

MAY ◥●■◆

2 **Charlottesville** (VA) SHM + ShH
Ivy Episcopal Church 851 Owensville Rd., Charlottesville, VA
shenandoahharmony.com

JUNE ◥●■◆

6–7 **Northern Shenandoah Valley** (VA) SHM + ShH
110 North Church St. Berryville, VA 22611
shenandoahharmony.com

14 **Exeter All-Day Singing** (PA) SHM
Friends Meetinghouse, 191 Meetinghouse Rd, Douglassville, PA 19518
pennsylvaniasacredharp.com

AUGUST ◥●■◆

22 **Floyd County All-Day Singing** (VA) SHM + ShH
Springhouse Community School, 144 Silver Maple Ln NE, Pilot, VA 24138
chrisfromground2plate@gmail.com

OCTOBER◥●■◆

3 **Maryland Shenandoah All-Day** (MD) ShH
Location TB
marylandshapenote.org

SINGING THE SHAPES

Songs of the Enduring Sacred Harp

A Documentary Film by Timothy Morton

Singing the Shapes is a feature documentary about Sacred Harp singing—a raw, powerful tradition of four-part, unaccompanied harmony that has echoed across centuries and communities.

For over fifteen years, director Timothy Morton sang this music and found himself drawn not only to its electrifying sound, but by the fellowship, the rituals, and the stories of the people who keep it alive. This film is his attempt to capture this living musical manifestation of the Sacred Harp tradition.

Over the course of production, he traveled to 15 states and Montreal, recording singings large and small. Midway through the process, he was granted access to a remarkable archive of never-before-seen footage: Sacred Harp singings and interviews filmed in 1982 by folklorist Alan Lomax. That material now forms a vital thread in the film's story, connecting past and present.

Now, the film is nearly complete—and they need your help to bring it across the finish line.

Your contribution will help cover final sound mixing, color grading, archival licensing, and distribution. It will also help us share the film with the communities who shaped it, and with wider audiences through festivals, screenings, and educational programs.

If you've ever felt the power of voices joined in song—or the importance of preserving stories that might otherwise fade—consider supporting Singing the Shapes.

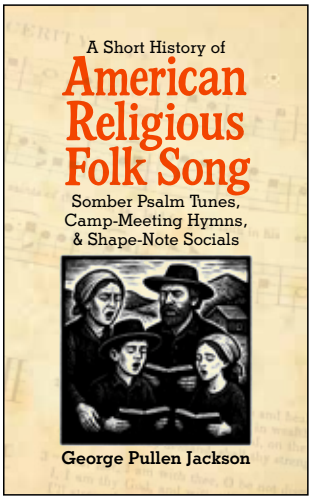
Use the QR Code to support the final phase of a film by making a donation at GoFundMe, or visit the film's website to learn more:

www.singingtheshapes.com

A Short History of American Religious Folk Song:

Somber Psalm Tunes, Camp-Meeting Hymns, & Shape-Note Socials

George Pullen Jackson $15.95 5×8" 180 pages ISBN: 978-1-943687-37-4


A Short History of
American Religious Folk Song
Somber Psalm Tunes, Camp-Meeting Hymns, & Shape-Note Socials
George Pullen Jackson

From the fervent camp meetings of the Great Awakening to the rise of the Shakers and Millerites, *A Short History of American Religious Folk Song* traces the turbulent history of early American religious music. Adapted from the work of pioneering scholar George Pullen Jackson, it explores how waves of dissent—Nonconformists, frontier Baptists, Methodists, and the "Fasola Folk"—shaped a uniquely American tradition of heartfelt, communal singing. Jackson's lively research shows how revivalism, itinerant preaching, and upheaval influenced folk hymnody, from colonial psalmody to shape-note singing and early gospel music. Dramatic scenes of the Great Awakening, Shaker song, and Millerite fervor highlight the grassroots power of these traditions. This edition also includes Jackson's essay "Buckwheat Notes" on the origins and spread of shape-note singing. For anyone drawn to early American religious culture, folk traditions, or the roots of *The Sacred Harp*, it offers a vivid portrait of a musical heritage carried by ordinary voices rather than institutions.

available from the publisher in the US, or through bookstores or Amazon internationally

Hollow Square Books http://www.HollowSquareBooks.com